

CLAIMS

1. A transmission system comprising:

program scheduling information acquiring means for
acquiring program scheduling information from an
5 externally-provided program scheduling information providing
firm and a broadcasting network;

program scheduling information encoding means for
encoding the acquired program scheduling information in
accordance with a designated encoding method; and

10 transfer means for transferring the coded data.

2. A transmission system as claimed in claim 1
wherein said designated encoding method is a encoding method
for controlling a display.

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3. A transmission system as claimed in claim 1
wherein said designated encoding method corresponds to an XML
(extensible marking language).

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4. A transmission system as claimed in claim 1
wherein said transfer means transmits update information which
is updated in real time.

5. A transmission system as claimed in claim 1
25 wherein said transmission system is comprised of:

an information providing unit for providing the coded
information to a network other than the broadcasting network.

6. A transmission system as claimed in claim 1 wherein said designated encoding method corresponds to an HTML (hyper text markup language).

5 7. A receiver comprising:

storage means for storing therein both program scheduling information and program control information which is updated in real time; and

merging means for merging the stored program control
10 information with the stored program scheduling information to thereby produce new program scheduling information.

8. A receiver as claimed in claim 7 wherein said receiver is comprised of:

15 program scheduling information receiving means for receiving program scheduling information; and

program scheduling information display means for displaying thereon received data.

20 9. A receiver as claimed in claim 7 wherein said receiver is comprised of:

program control information receiving means for receiving the program control information which is updated in real time.

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10. A transmission system as claimed in claim 4 wherein said program control information corresponds to at least a program content, a program starting time instant, and

program duration, which are updated.

11. A receiver as claimed in claim 7, or claim 9
wherein said program control information corresponds to at
5 least a program content, a program starting time instant, and
program duratioin, which are updated.

12. A transmission system as claimed in claim 4
wherein said transmission system is comprised of:

10 program scheduling information encoding means for
generating link information in which a relationship between
the program control information and the program scheduling
information is described; and

15 transfer means for transmitting the link information.

13. A receiver as claimed in claim 9 wherein said
receiver is comprised of:

20 program table generating/display means for generating
a program table from program control information, and for
displaying the produced program table.

14. A receiver as claimed in claim 13 wherein both
the program scheduling information and the program table are
displayed in conjunction with each other by display control
25 means for managing a relationship between the program control
information and the program scheduling information based upon
the link information so as to control displays of the program
scheduling information and the program table.

15. A transmission system as claimed in claim 1 wherein information which is updated in real time is acquired by program scheduling information acquiring means.

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16. A receiver as claimed in claim 8 wherein said receiver is comprised of:

a storage apparatus for previously storing thereinto program scheduling information.

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17. A receiver as claimed in claim 16 wherein the program scheduling information is acquired from at least one of the broadcasting network, the operated storage apparatus, and the network.

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18. A receiver as claimed in claim 16 wherein the latest program information is continuously provided by that while the program control information is received in real time, both the program information and the program control information are united to be displayed.

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19. A receiver as claimed in claim 13 wherein the program control information is acquired from at least one of the broadcasting network, the operated storage apparatus, and the network.

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20. A receiver as claimed in claim 16 wherein the program scheduling information is constituted by more than

one mono-media.

21. A receiver as claimed in claim 20 wherein the
mono-media is constituted by a still image, a moving picture,
5 or voice.

22. A receiver as claimed in claim 13 wherein said
receiver displays program information related to a program
in addition to the program table.

23. A transmission system as claimed in claim 1
wherein the program scheduling information is constituted by
program scheduling information of the own media, or other media.

24. A receiver as claimed in claim 7, or claim 9
wherein the program scheduling information is constituted by
program scheduling information of the own media, or other media.

25. A broadcasting system comprising:

a transmission system equipped with program scheduling
information acquiring means for acquiring program scheduling
information from an externally-provided program scheduling
information providing firm and a broadcasting network, and
transfer means for transferring the program scheduling
25 information by way of either a broadcasting network or a
communication; and

a receiver equipped with: program scheduling
information receiving means for receiving the program scheduling

information from said transmission system; program control
information receiving means for receiving from a broadcasting
network and the like, program control information which describes
therein a program content, program starting time, program
5 duration, and the like, which are updated in real time due
to a special newscast and an extension of a sports broadcasting
program; and merging means for updating the content of the
program scheduling information based upon the content of the
program control information.

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26. A broadcasting system comprising:

a transmission system in which link information
describing therein a relationship between a content of program
control information and a content of program scheduling
15 information is transferred in connection with program scheduling
information by transfer means; and

a receiver comprised of program table
generating/display means for generating a program table from
the program control information and for displaying the program
20 table; and display control means for managing a relationship
between program control information and program scheduling
information based upon the link information so as to control
displays of the program scheduling information and the program
table, whereby the program scheduling information can be
25 displayed in conjunction with the program table.